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W A R T I M E E X T E N S I O N W O R K

Summary no. 47 SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS
BASED ON STATE REPORTS

April 10, 1943

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Farm labor, victory gardens, neighborhood leaders, and nutrition are spotlighted in this week's reports. Also significant in view of wartime restrictions on meetings is increasing use of radio by some of the States. Special labor reports from all the states show states active on farm labor and organized for local mobilization. 46 states report active state farm labor committees, and county advisory committees are at work in most counties. State conferences with agencies concerned and conference with county agents have been held in most states.

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MONTANA

April 1, 1943

Farm labor.— Follow-through on labor recruitment and training program carried during month. Reports indicate that counties generally are carrying forward plans for completing program.

Price information.— Mimeographed summary of current floor and ceiling price information on principal Montana farm products was prepared and distributed through extension agents. Intended for current reference to complicated price-control programs.

Conservation.— Cooperation given State AAA Committee in developing policy on breaking out of sods. Principle involved was to permit expansion under conditions beneficial to war production program and to maintain degree of control to prevent undesirable expansion over long term. Main controls involved permission to break out sod being given by AAA committeemen, fieldmen, and State office.

NORTH DAKOTA

March 22, 1943

Rationing and nutrition.— Extension nutritionist directed educational work among farm families for new point rationing plan. Cooperated with Food Distribution Administration in revised school lunch program. Extension Service's food budgets, used by various agencies in State, being revised to meet demands of rationing.

Flax and potatoes.— Provided information on recommended flax varieties and sources of seed. Developed flax and potato production cost figures to be used by USDA in connection with flax insurance.

Russian seed relief.- Extension agronomist completed work on Russian seed relief; nearly \$40,000 contributed in North Dakota, 10 carloads of wheat, 3 of oats, 1 of grass seed purchased for shipment to Russia.

Victory Gardens.- Working with Governor's office, Extension developed and put into action State-wide Victory Garden plan. Distributed recommended variety list through county agents and commercial firms. Victory Garden suggestions submitted to all North Dakota newspapers each week.

Radio.- Thirty extension agents cooperating with six radio stations in weekly broadcast of stories of individual farmers' contributions to food production program. Labor-saving devices, short cuts, better practices, emphasized.

Income Tax.- Extension economist prepared circular on making out farm income tax returns. Convenient form for farmers to use as work sheet accompanied text. Also prepared and distributed material on Victory tax.

Neighborhood leaders.- Current wartime information provided all leaders during month; special emphasis on point rationing. Intensive neighborhood leader training meetings temporarily delayed by road conditions.

OREGON

March 1, 1943

Farm labor.- Much attention given to planning work and conferences on emergency farm labor problems. County farm labor program planning meetings being held each county; agenda worked out jointly by Extension and USES, with approval of State Agricultural Advisory Committee and State USDA War Board. Meetings take account of experience in solving farm labor problems in 1942 and outline most effective program possible for 1943. Attended by all members county farm labor subcommittees, and representatives county subcommittees on crops and livestock. Invitations also extended members county USDA War Boards, Selective Service boards, school officials, and youth participation in civilian defense committees. Two meetings held February; others planned for March. Attendance excellent. Extension economist attended labor conference in Portland; discussions held on bringing seasonal farm workers into certain sections Oregon during 1943.

In all counties agents assisted Selective Service boards in classifying farm workers, and often helped registrants in preparing questionnaires. In several counties, joint meetings of USDA War Board and Selective Service board considered farm labor problem.

Neighborhood leaders.- During February specialists from college visited each county to explain neighborhood leader job No. 3 - The Victory Garden and the Family Food Supply; Meat Production and Conservation - and to assist county extension workers in training leaders.

Subject-matter meetings.- Continued series of subject-matter meetings. Changes in production and marketing methods to meet war requirements given first consideration. 104 meetings held, attended by 3,701.

Transportation.- Series of meetings held with 36 county farm transportation committees to survey progress in rubber and truck conservation. Examples of conservation in counties include: Organization of cooperative transportation and marketing of livestock in Lake and Josephine Counties and plans for similar

action in 5 other counties; reduction of truck mileage obtained in 6 counties by cooperative hauling arrangements between dairy manufacturing concerns; cooperation between neighbors within counties in joint use of trucks hauling agricultural products to market and returning with farm supplies.

Home demonstration activities.- Nutrition committees of 10 counties, where home agent is chairman of committee, carries on civilian defense activities. Agents in 4 counties organized and conducted nutrition classes for Red Cross, and in 5 counties conducted canteen courses. Cooperated with public schools on school lunches in 4 counties and served on county defense councils, salvage and consumers' committees, bond and stamp committees. In 12 counties, conducted demonstrations on care and repair of clothing and of sewing machines.

4-H Clubs.- Well over 25,000 4-H Club members reported enrolled this year. As result of Mobilization Week, 172 new local leaders enlisted in 4-H program. Victory Gardens will be important phase of club activities for 1943.

Radio.- Home demonstration agents doing good job in using radio to further programs. One agent has broadcast hook-up in her office and gave 21 broadcasts during month. Two agents who broadcast over far-reaching station three times a week, now receive letters not only from Oregon, but from neighboring States, in response to broadcasts.

PUERTO RICO

March 1, 1943

Roll call for rural women.- Adult council meetings held in every district to plan program of clubs for Roll Call Week for rural women. New agents met 2 days to discuss and receive information on leadership and organization, and schools for training leaders held in several districts.

Health and welfare.- Social hygiene campaigns conducted in various districts. 27 illustrated conferences held on preventing communicable diseases, with attendance of 574. Local doctors and nurses cooperated with home agents in giving conferences, and health department provided posters and literature for distribution. Nine milk stations established during February in 6 districts, where 390 children were fed.

Information.- New farm and home page made first appearance in newspaper "El Mundo" on February 7. Page will appear weekly as result of cooperative effort of Extension, AAA, and FSA information specialists. For 4 issues in February, Extension contributed 24 news and feature stories. During February 11,328 extension publications distributed; 11 picture shows given with attendance of 1,508; 21 radio programs broadcast.

SOUTH CAROLINA

April 1, 1943

Home food production.- Week of April 5 designated by Governor's proclamation as enrollment week for 75 Percent Food and Feed Production Program. All county newspapers to carry information and copy of enrollment card. Goal in each county is to reach and enroll every farm family, through circular letters and neighborhood leaders.

Poultry.- Town and city people becoming interested in growing baby chicks for small back-yard flocks to supplement rationed meat supply. Construction plans for brooders being distributed.

1942 achievements.- Total of 20,360 farms, taken at random in various counties, showed following accomplishments in 1942: Over a third of farms reported good home gardens, 14 percent planted wheat for home use, 12½ percent produced their own sirup, 8 percent produced sweetpotatoes, 8 percent killed hogs for home use - all for first time; 6 percent obtained first family cow.

Total value of products marketed in 1942, \$10,154,171.91, represents highest figure reached in extension history in State.

SOUTH DAKOTA
March 1, 1943

Victory Gardens.- Garden program being presented largely through neighborhood leaders. Agents and specialists assisted various town organizations in development of program. Extension garden committee published garden leaflet, enrollment card, and window sticker to indicate intention of family to plant garden in 1943. Garden roll call campaign will be carried on during March. Special publicity for all State papers includes column entitled "Your Food Supply." Training schools for campaign work held.

Farm machinery.- 38 farm machinery meetings in 27 counties had attendance of 2,313. Care and maintenance emphasized. Also much interest in converting horse-drawn implements into power equipment.

Victory institutes.- Victory institutes held in 27 counties during January and February. Similar to old-fashioned farm institutes. Most meetings lasted 2 days with discussion of livestock feeding, disease control, poultry and crop production, cropping practices, nutrition, and farm gardens. Meetings proved popular and helped to emphasize family approach to extension program.

Food and nutrition.- All homemaking specialists participated in Victory institutes. Nutritionist discussed family food supply, correlating information with need for more home-produced foods, especially well-planned gardens. Extension club groups featured "Plan for Your Vitamin C by Using South Dakota Produced Foods" in local demonstrations. Meat conservation also demonstrated. Point system for food rationing explained through neighborhood leaders and home extension clubs.

WASHINGTON
March 19, 1943

4-H Clubs.- A radio station is sponsoring State-wide 4-H enrollment contest. This and other promotional activities are increasing club enrollments in many counties. Hope to double enrollment of 10,000 this year. Station offers big trophy for winning county in contest and plaques for second and third. Will also give ribbons to all club members in each of three high counties to indicate how their counties placed. All expenses being paid by station.

Neighborhood leaders.- Virtually all counties have well-organized neighborhood-leader program. Latest job of approximately 8,000 leaders was to present food-production check list. List gives valuable suggestions on how to meet 1943 food goals and to provide better family living by producing more food for family table. Leaders enthusiastic about calling on neighbors with check list.

Victory Gardens.- In cooperation with State Defense Council, 32-page, four-color cover Victory Garden bulletin prepared by extension specialists is being widely circulated. Defense council bought 135,000 copies for distribution through their representatives; Extension published 40,000 for county agent distribution. Booklet being used as text in many gardening classes throughout State.

Food preservation.- Special committee appointed to arrange for food-preservation school, to be sponsored cooperatively by Extension Service, experiment station, and college of home economics. Schools will be held in various parts of State to encourage proper food-preservation and storage practices.

Forage.- With rapid increase in both hay- and grain-consuming livestock, Washington is faced with serious shortage of hay and other roughages. To meet problem, Extension is launching program to help farmers save every ton of grass, legumes, and roughages for feed.

Clothing conferences.- District-wide clothing and home-furnishing conferences held throughout State during March. At meetings home demonstration agents were instructed in reupholstering, cleaning and adjusting sewing machines, pattern making, remodeling garments, etc. They will hold similar demonstration meetings for homemakers in their counties.

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